

## Press Release

Department of Transfusion Medicine Celebrated its 6<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day on December 12, 2015 in Scientific Convention Centre, KGMU. The programme started with the inaugural ceremony. The Chief Guest for the inauguration was Prof. Ravi Kant, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, KGMU. Guest of Honour were Mr. Pradeep Dube, Principal Secretary, Vidhan Sabha, UP and Mrs. Sunita Aeron, Senior Resident Editor, Hindustan Times. Other dignitaries on the dias were Prof. S.C.Tiwari, Chief Medical Superintendent & Dr. Tulika Chandra, Head, Department of Transfusion Medicine, KGMU. Mrs. Nidhi Srivastava, ADM City was presented a token of appreciation for initiation of blood donation camp in ganjing carnival, Dr. SNS Yadav, Chief Medical Officer, Lucknow was appreciated for his efforts in regular camp for morning walkers at Janeshwar Mishra Park. Mrs Vineeta Shrivastava, Consultant National Blood Cell and NHM, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was presented a token of appreciation for her contribution to blood transfusion services. Students of MBBS and BDS batches were awarded for essay and slogan writing competition.

Dr. Atul Kulkarni, Director Incharge, Jankalyan Blood Bank, Pune, Maharashtra gave an oration on "Journey towards safe blood."

On this occasion Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ravi Kant said that "it is matter of pride that department houses one of the largest blood bank of country with an annual collection of approx 50,000 blood units with 100% component preparation. It is first blood bank of state and one of few in the country to supply highest quality safe blood by carrying out NAT (Nucleic acid technology) in the blood units. Automation has further enhanced quality for blood grouping and antibody screening. Leucoreduced blood components have also aided in benefitting patients.

The department highlighted its achievements on this occasion. Annual collection of blood units have increased remarkable during this year and expected to cross previous year collection of 46,000. Percentage positivity of Transfusion transmitted infections has remained almost at the same level. The department held many CME, Seminars and workshops to promote transfusion awareness amongst all medical and paramedical personnel. NAT helped us to save and detect 900 donors of HBV, 135 donors of HCV and 66 patients of HIV.

Automation in blood grouping and antibody screening is continuing. The Department has started the initiative of discontinuation of syringes which is a hazard to one and for all. Hemoglobin testing by hemaccue has been started to standardize Hb testing. Biometrics testing with thumb impression and iris scanning has helped us to select healthy donors thus improve the standards of blood safety. Blood supply cards have been given to user departments. Transfusion Medicine Department of KGMU has purchased a new blood mobile Van which is gradually changing the face of the society regarding voluntary blood donation. The department also aims to establish a stem cell bank which will be the first govt. sector blood bank and cure patients of innumerable diseases.